

Wednesday, June 4, 1947

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate continued debate on Italian Peace Treaty; House adopted conference report on labor-management relations bill by a vote of 320 to 79, and continued debate on War Establishment appropriations for 1948.

National Defense Establishment bill approved by Armed Services Committee.

Senate groups acted on veterans' proposals.

Hearings started by House group on admission of displaced persons.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages 6304-6306

Bills Introduced: Five bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1376-S. 1380; and S. Res. 122.

Pages 6305, 6306

Bills Reported: Bills were reported as follows:

H. R. 360, private relief bill (S. Rept. 236); and

S. 484, directing the issuance of a land patent (S. Rept. 237).

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Bills Referred: The following House-passed bills were referred to committees indicated: H. R. 617, 637, 837, 987, 993, 1144, 1152, 1497, 1531, 1658, 1742, 1799, 1851, 2302, 3170, and 3387 (Committee on the Judiciary); and H. J. Res. 96 (Committee on Armed Services).

Page 6306

Universal Training: Presidential message transmitting report by Advisory Commission on Universal Training was received and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

Page 6306

Peace Treaty: Senate continued debate on the Italian Treaty of Peace (Executive F).

Pages 6306-6338

Philippines: Consular Convention between U. S. and Republic of Philippines (Executive Q) was received and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Pages 6301-6304

Nominations: Received 84 nominations in the Public Health Service; 14 in the Diplomatic and Foreign Service; and that of F. Clyde Keefe as collector of customs for New Hampshire.

Pages 6338-6339

Reports on Committee Meetings

FERTILIZER

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry: Committee heard the following witnesses testify in support of S.

1251, national soil-fertility policy and program: Gordon R. Clapp, chairman; C. N. Bass; J. J. McAmis; and C. H. Young, all of the TVA; and I. O. Schaub, Director of Extension Service for North Carolina.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee began "marking up" H. R. 3123, Interior Department appropriation bill.

STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE APPROPRIATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on H. R. 3311, State, Justice, Commerce appropriations bill, heard testimony from Under Secretary of Commerce William C. Foster, T. P. Wright, Administrator of CAA, and other CAA officials.

NATIONAL DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT

Committee on Armed Services: In executive session by a vote of 12 to 0, the committee approved S. 758, to create a National Defense Establishment, as revised. Report and revised bill is expected to be filed within a few days.

SUGAR

Committee on Banking and Currency: Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson; James H. Marshall, Department of Agriculture; and Harold O. Smith, National Confectioners Association, appeared in support of extending controls over sugar, while Walter S. Mack, president, Pepsi-Cola Co., testified in support of S. 1321, to provide for the decontrol of sugar.

Subcommittee meets tomorrow on proposed extension of RFC.

SALE OF AIRPLANES

Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments: Subcommittee on Surplus Property met to consider the sale of some 5,000 used Army planes for salvage purposes to Martin Wunderlich, to study low sale price, and why most bidders were unaware of essen-

tial facts on value of planes and accompanying equipment and facilities. The following witnesses testified: General Mollison and John Carey, Deputy Administrators of WAA; Thomas Wadden, Deputy Administrator in charge of aircraft disposal of WAA; Stanford Stelle, formerly with WAA; and Nate Silverston, United States Army Air Forces. Committee meets again June 18 to hear Martin Wunderlich and others.

OIL AGREEMENTS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Under Secretary of Interior Oscar L. Chapman and Ralph K. Davies, special consultant to the Department of Interior, testified favorably on Anglo-American oil agreements (Executive H, 79th). Hearings continue tomorrow.

Opponents of the St. Lawrence waterway, S. J. Res 111, will be heard on June 11 and 12, while remaining proponents will testify June 13.

INTERNATIONAL AIR CARRIERS

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Subcommittee on Aviation heard Donald Hornbeck, representing the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; Hartman Barber, representing the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks; and Carter Fort, general counsel for American Association of Railroads, testify in support of S. 987, to consolidate American flag international air lines, and Garrison Norton, Assistant Secretary of State, in opposition. Hearings continue tomorrow.

RAILROAD FINANCING

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Subcommittee continued hearings on S. 249, railroad financing bill, and heard testimony in favor of the bill, as introduced, from J. Carter Fort, Association of American Railroads; Willkie Bushby, representing a group of insurance companies holding Rock Island bonds; Fred N. Oliver, general counsel, National Association Mutual Savings Banks; and C. McD. Davis, president ACL Railroad. Hearings continue tomorrow.

ANTIMONOPOLY

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee in open hearings on S. 104, to amend the Antitrust Act to prohibit acquisition of assets of another corporation, etc., heard Dr. John Blair, Assistant Chief Economist, and Walter Wooden, Associate General Counsel, both of the FTC, support the legislation. Ralph Heymsfeld, secretary of Schenley Distillers, and Arthur Boehm, Boehm Pressed Steel Co., submitted analytical information to the committee.

EXPORT CONTROL

Committee on the Judiciary: The subcommittee heard Wilson T. Hart, Department of Agriculture; Under

Secretary of Agriculture Dodd; and Madison H. Varn, formerly with the Department of Commerce, give data on the proposed extension of export control. Willem C. Schilthuis, vice president, North American Export Grain Association, testified in favor of extending export controls, while Russel B. Brown, Independent Petroleum Association of America, and John Ferguson, Independent Natural Gas Association, appeared in opposition. Hearings continue Friday.

VETERANS' SUBSISTENCE

Committee on Labor and Public Welfare: Subcommittee on Veterans, in executive session, approved a veterans' benefit program at an estimated additional cost of from \$267 to \$300 million, as follows:

Approved the Taft bill on determining eligibility of veterans for vocational rehabilitation, education and training, guarantee of loans, and unemployment readjustment allowances (S. 977), amended to change the date from March 31, 1947, to September 1, 1947.

Approved proposed increase of ceilings for on-the-job training from \$175 to \$200 for single persons and \$200 to \$250 for married persons.

Approved increasing ceilings for educational training from \$65 to \$75 for single persons, \$90 to \$105 for married persons, and \$120 for married persons with one or more dependents.

Favored writing a new bill on automobiles for veterans, giving each amputee \$1,600 for a car, allowing him to pay any difference between \$1,600 and the car price. Amputee would include any person having suffered the loss of one or both legs, or one or both arms, with the benefit period to be extended for 3 years.

Subcommittee agreed that bills would be introduced under new numbers tomorrow.

HEALTH LEGISLATION

Committee on Labor and Public Welfare: Subcommittee on Health in public hearings on S. 545, to create an independent National Health Agency, heard testimony from Dr. E. S. Bagnall, Massachusetts State Medical Society; Dr. Chas. G. Hayden, Massachusetts Hospital Service, Inc., Boston; and Ernest R. Geddes, California State legislator representing Health Care Investigating Interim Committee of California.

SMALL BUSINESS—STEEL

Special Committee to Study Problems of American Small Business: Subcommittee on Steel heard T. A. Duer, Troop Water Heater Co., of Pittsburgh, discuss the inability of his business to obtain the necessary supply of steel, and Al Levinson, Steel Craft Engineering Co., relate information on sales and distribution of steel by his concern. Hearings continue tomorrow.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: Eight public bills, H. R. 3715-3722; seven private bills, H. R. 3723-3729; and four resolutions, H. Res. 231-233, and H. Con. Res. 52, were introduced.

Pages 6341, 6344, 6394, 6395

Bills Reported: Bills and resolutions were reported as follows:

H. Res. 231, rule providing 1 hour's general debate on H. R. 1389, amending Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 (H. Rept. 512);

H. R. 3394, amending the act providing for evacuation and return of the remains of certain military personnel who died and are buried overseas (H. Rept. 513);

H. J. Res. 210, extending to July 1, 1948, period for tax-free release of powers of appointment created before October 21, 1942 (H. Rept. 514);

H. R. 210, establishing a fish hatchery at Rogers City, Mich. (H. Rept. 515);

H. R. 214, establishing a fish hatchery at St. Ignace, Mich. (H. Rept. 516);

H. R. 215, establishing a fish hatchery at Charlevoix, Mich. (H. Rept. 517);

H. R. 216, establishing a fish hatchery on the Anna River, Mich. (H. Rept. 518); and

H. R. 3602, to exempt from general admissions tax certain agricultural fairs (H. Rept. 519). Pages 6394-6395

New Committee Chairman: Agreed to H. Res. 232, resolution electing Representative Weichel, of Ohio, chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Page 6344

Bill Re-referred: S. 1072, to extend until July 1, 1949, the period during which income from agriculture labor and nursing services may be disregarded in making old-age assistance payments, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on Agriculture to which it was originally referred was discharged from further consideration.

Page 6344

Rent Control: Disagreed to Senate amendments to H. R. 3203, continuation of rent control, agreed to the conference asked, and Representatives Wolcott, Gamble, Kunkel, Talle, Spence, Brown of Georgia, and Patman were appointed as House conferees.

Page 6346

Military Appropriations: Resumed consideration of H. R. 3678, making appropriations for the Military Establishment in fiscal year 1948, and read the bill for amendment under the 5-minute rule. Rejected by voice vote an amendment offered by Representative Dirksen to decrease the amount of \$2,348,438,179, for pay and allowances of the Army, by \$125,000,000. The primary reason advanced for this suggested change was based on the likelihood of the War Department's enlistment estimates not being reached this year.

Pursuant to a previous order entered into, the conference report on the labor-management bill was called up, temporarily suspending consideration of an amendment proposed by Representative Mahon, which would increase the amount of \$773,332,508, for maintenance of the Army Air Corps, by \$40,000,000. A full hour is scheduled to be spent on this amendment when consideration is resumed on Thursday.

Pages 6346-6360

Labor-Management Relations: Called up the conference report on H. R. 3020, labor-management relations bill, and spent 1 hour in general debate. Rejected a motion to recommit to conference by a division vote of 246 nays to 55 yeas, and adopted the report by a roll-call vote of 320 yeas to 79 nays.

Pages 6361-6393

Treasury-Post Office: Disagreed to Senate amendments to H. R. 2436, Treasury-Post Office Departments appropriations bill for 1948, agreed to conference asked, and Representatives Canfield, Dirksen, Griffith, Robertson, Gary, Bates of Kentucky, and Whitten were appointed as House conferees.

Page 6394

Wool Bill: The Speaker appointed Representative Zimmerman as a House conferee on S. 814, wool support bill, now in conference, in place of Representative Flannagan, resigned.

Page 6393

Labor-Management Bill: Agreed to H. Con. Res. 52, authorizing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make certain changes in H. R. 3020, labor-management relations bill.

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Reports on Committee Meetings

FARM PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture: Continued hearings on long-range farm program and heard J. L. Rosefield, Peanut Butter Manufacturers Association.

Committee also held executive session, at which time they voted to endorse H. R. 3484, transfer of the Remount Service from the War Department to the Department of Agriculture, which is now before the Armed Services Committee, and recommend its enactment.

MILITARY

Committee on Armed Services: Retirement Subcommittee met in executive session on H. R. 2744, Army Vitalization and Retirement Equalization Act of 1946. Meeting will continue tomorrow.

Personnel Subcommittee held executive session on H. R. 2536 and H. R. 2537, Army and Navy promotion bills.

RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION

Committee on Banking and Currency: Held hearings on guarantee of business loans by Federal Reserve banks,

and heard Kenton B. Cravens, member of the credit policy commission, American Bankers Association, who testified against Government guarantee of business loans in peacetime. He said the real business credit problem today is one of overextension of credit rather than too little credit by banks and other private lenders. Earl R. Muir, member of the small business credit commission of the American Bankers Association, stated that Government should not engage directly or indirectly in the field of private credit as this proposal would encourage loose spending and tend to inflate the economy further.

D. C. RECORDER OF DEEDS

Committee on the District of Columbia: Subcommittee on the Judiciary held hearings on H. R. 3045, transferring the Office of Recorder of Deeds to the District Commissioners, and heard Representative Horan, author of the bill; Vernon West, Corporation Counsel; George Keneipp, Director, Department of Vehicles; Dr. Marshall L. Shepard, Recorder; Washington I. Cleveland, American Automobile Association; and George Hart, Jr., District of Columbia Bar.

REORGANIZATION—RFC BUILDING SPACE

Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments: Met in executive session and announced hearings to be held on Monday, June 9, on President's Reorganization Plan No. 3. Morton Bodfish, executive vice president, U. S. Savings and Loan League, Chicago, Ill.; Herbert Nelson, president, Association of Real Estate Board, Chicago, Ill.; and James E. Webb, Director of the Bureau of the Budget, with other representatives from his organization, will be the witnesses on Monday. Hearings on H. R. 2319, National Security Act of 1947, will be resumed on Tuesday, June 10, with Secretary of the Navy Forrestal as the first witness.

Procurement and Buildings Subcommittee continued hearings on methods used by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in the procurement of building space by lending money to a private builder on condition that the building be leased to the RFC. Continued questioning of the same witnesses who had testified on the previous day—John D. Goodloe, Chairman, RFC; Frank R. Creedon, Housing Expediter; and W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner of Public Buildings. The testimony disclosed that RFC no longer had the need for space that existed at the inception of these arrangements; that this method of obtaining new building space constituted uneconomical competition among Government agencies. The PBA was asked to submit recommendations as to how the space needs and space available to the RFC and other Government corporations could be coordinated into an over-all plan for the procurement and management of building space for all Government agencies.

FASCISM

Committee on House Administration: Met on H. Res. 83, printing of a documented study and analyses of

"Fascism in Action" as a House document. Hearings will continue tomorrow.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Held executive session on National Science Foundation legislation. Meeting will continue tomorrow. Announcement was made that the Subcommittee on Railroad Legislation will hold hearings on H. R. 3140, relating to boxcars, on June 17 and 18.

CLAIMS—DISPLACED PERSONS—COPYRIGHTS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Claims considered and ordered favorably reported to the full committee 11 private claims bills.

Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization began public hearings on H. R. 2910, regarding the admission into the United States of displaced persons in Germany, Austria, and Italy, and heard Representative Stratton, who testified in support of the bill.

Subcommittee on Patents, Trade-Marks, and Copyrights held hearings on H. R. 1269, H. R. 1270, and H. R. 2570, concerning copyrights, and heard Lewis Frohlich, general counsel, ASCAP; Deems Taylor, president, ASCAP; John Schulman, representing Songwriters Protective Association; Sidney W. Wattenberg, counsel, Music Publishers Protective Association; Isabelle Marks, Decca Records, Inc.; and Kenneth Raine, secretary, Columbia Recording Corp.

COAST GUARD—WILDLIFE

Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries: Subcommittee on Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Service held hearings on H. R. 3494, relating to Coast Guard personnel, and heard Admiral J. F. Farley, Commandant, Coast Guard; Capt. Alfred C. Richmond, Coast Guard; Hon. John J. O'Connor, Counsel for the Society of Marine Inspectors; Capt. Wm. C. Ash, national vice president, Master, Mates and Pilots of America; Capt. R. E. Coombs, Coast Guard; and Hoyt S. Haddock, CIO Maritime Committee. Hearings will continue tomorrow.

Subcommittee on Conservation of Wildlife Resources held hearings on H. R. 3043, transferring certain lands to Interior Department, and heard Hon. Kent E. Keller, Ava, Ill.; Hugh Trammel, Stone Fort, Ill.; Gregory Hankin, attorney, Washington, D. C.; and Chas. E. Hamilton, Williamson County, Ill. Hearings will continue tomorrow.

LOYALTY—MAIL DELIVERY

Committee on Post Office and Civil Service: Rees subcommittee heard concluding testimony of Arthur S. Flemming, Civil Service Commissioner, on H. R. 3588, Federal Employees' Loyalty Act of 1947.

Youngblood subcommittee held hearings on H. R. 2588, delivery of mails consigned between an airport and a post office within a 35-mile radius of a city in

which there is a Government-owned motor-vehicle service, and heard A. G. Beidenweg, Clarence N. Bruce, and George Miller, all of the Post Office Department; also representatives from the National Federation of Post Office Motor Vehicle Employees; Government Employees Council; National Association of Letter Carriers; National Federation of Post Office Clerks; National Association of Special Delivery Messengers; and National Association of Post Office Custodial Employees. Subcommittee ordered the bill, with amendment, favorably reported to the full committee.

RECLAMATION

Committee on Public Lands: Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation met on various bills amending the Reclamation Project Act of 1939, and heard Representative Lemke in behalf of his bill, H. R. 1977; and Representative Rockwell in behalf of his bill, H. R. 2873. Subcommittee voted to consider H. R. 2873 for amendments on Friday, June 6. Hearings will continue tomorrow.

PUBLIC WORKS

Committee on Public Works: Held hearings on H. R. 3036, transfer of jurisdiction over certain power projects and transmission lines, and heard Chairman Dondero, author of the bill; Russell Smith, representing Farmers' Union; and Representative Horan. Hearings will continue tomorrow.

RULES

Committee on Rules: Heard Chairman Rees, of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, and Representative Vursell, of Illinois, in favor of a resolution providing consideration of H. R. 1389, amending the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944. A resolution providing for 1 hour general debate was ordered reported.

INSURANCE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Insurance held hearings on H. R. 604, H. R. 807, and H. R. 1328, insurance bills, and heard Representative LeCompte in behalf of his bill, H. R. 604; John C. Williamson and J. Robert Conroy, of the VFW; Charles W. Stevens and Clarence R. Smith, of the American Legion; and Kenneth D. Bradley, of the DAV, all of whom testified on all three measures.

TAX REVISION

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on general tax revision and heard Mark Anton, Suburban Propane Gas Co., West Orange, N. J.; C. T. Lawson, National Electric Manufacturing Association, New York; Frazier Hilder, counsel, Institute of Cooking & Heating Appliance Manufacturers, Inc., Washington, D. C.; and Frank J. Nugent, general manager, Appliance Sales, Rheem Manufacturing Co., New York, all of whom testified to the need for revision of excise tax on cooking and heating and electrical appliances. Hearings continue tomorrow.

REPORT ON JOINT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

WOOL PRICE SUPPORT

Conferees on S. 814, to establish a wool price support program, met in executive session but made no announcement of action taken.

CAPITOL BUILDING

Joint Session of Committees on Capitol Buildings: House and Senate Committees on Capitol Buildings met jointly with Capitol Architect David Lynn to discuss the remodeling of House and Senate Chamber skylights. They meet again Wednesday, June 11.

Thursday, June 5, 1947

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate ratified four peace treaties and debated labor conference report;
House passed Military Establishment appropriation bill for 1948.
Bills on department of health and education, traveling expenses, California aqueduct, and Government checks approved by Senate group.
Antimonopoly bill ordered reported by House committee.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages 6427-6435

Bills Introduced: Sixteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1381-S. 1396; S. J. Res. 123; and S. Con. Res. 17.

Pages 6428-6429, 6431-6433

Bills Reported: Bills and reports were reported as follows:

Report of Public Lands Subcommittee on Centralia mine disaster (S. Rept. 238);

S. 758, to create a National Defense Establishment (S. Rept. 239);